IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (New): A server device capable of accessing a hypermedia-data client device through a network, comprising:

a metadata storage unit to store metadata having information related to contents of an image corresponding to each of time stamps of a moving image to be played back by the client device;

a time-stamp receiving unit to receive the time stamp of the image to be played back, the time stamp being transmitted from the client device; and

a metadata transmission unit to transmit the stored metadata to the client device by streaming distribution in synchronization with the playback of the image in accordance with the received time stamp;

the metadata including:

object-area data specifying the area of an object appearing in the image corresponding to the time stamp; and

data specifying contents to be displayed when the area specified by the object-area data is designated, or an action to be performed when the area specified by the object-area data is designated;

the server device further comprising a position-correspondence table storage unit to store a position-correspondence table in which the time stamp and the storage position of metadata related to the time stamp are in correspondence with each other;

wherein upon receiving a playback start time for the moving image, the metadata

transmission unit sequentially sends the metadata by streaming distribution from the metadata

storage position specified with reference to the position-correspondence table.

Claim 13 (New): A server device according to claim 12, wherein the metadata

transmission unit adjusts a timer time to be used when the metadata to be distributed and a

distribution timing therefor are determined, in accordance with the received time stamp.

Claim 14 (New): A server device according to claim 12, wherein when the metadata

to be distributed and a distribution timing therefor are determined, the metadata transmission

unit determines a transmission timing of partial data in the metadata by using a data-

transmission interval calculated from a timer time and data transfer speed of the streaming

distribution and an allowed time difference between the time stamp and the partial data of the

metadata to be next transmitted.

Claim 15 (New): A server device capable of accessing a hypermedia-data client

device through a network, comprising:

a metadata storage unit to store metadata having information related to contents of an

image corresponding to each of time stamps of a moving image to be played back by the

client device;

a time-stamp receiving unit to receive the time stamp of the image to be played back,

the time stamp being transmitted from the client device; and

a metadata transmission unit to transmit the stored metadata to the client device by

streaming distribution in synchronization with the playback of the image in accordance with

the received time stamp;

the metadata including:

object-area data specifying the area of an object appearing in the image

corresponding to the time stamp; and

data specifying contents to be displayed when the area specified by the object-

area data is designated, or an action to be performed when the area specified by the

object-area data is designated;

the server device further comprising:

a first-table storage unit to store a first table that brings sections of the time stamps

related to a plurality of pieces of the metadata into correspondence with information for

specifying the metadata; and

a second-table storage unit to store a second table that brings the time stamps into

correspondence with storage positions of metadata related to the time stamps;

wherein upon receiving a playback start time for the moving image, the metadata

transmission unit sends partial data of the metadata specified with reference to the first table

by streaming distribution, and then sequentially sends the metadata from the storage position

specified with reference to the second table by streaming distribution.

Claim 16 (New): A server device according to claim 15, wherein the metadata

transmission unit adjusts a timer time to be used when the metadata to be distributed and a

distribution timing therefor are determined, in accordance with the received time stamp.

Claim 17 (New): A server device according to claim 15, wherein when the metadata

to be distributed and a distribution timing therefor are determined, the metadata transmission

unit determines a transmission timing of partial data in the metadata by using a data-

transmission interval calculated from a timer time and data transfer speed of the streaming

distribution and an allowed time difference between the time stamp and the partial data of the

metadata to be next transmitted.

Claim 18 (New): A method of transmitting data in a server device capable of

accessing a hypermedia-data client device through a network, comprising:

storing metadata having information related to contents of an image corresponding to

each of time stamps of a moving image to be played back by the client device;

receiving the time stamp of the image to be played back, the time stamp being

transmitted from the client device; and

transmitting the stored metadata to the client device by streaming distribution in

synchronization with the playback of the image in accordance with the received time stamp;

the metadata including:

object-area data specifying the area of an object appearing in the image

corresponding to the time stamp; and

data specifying contents to be displayed when the area specified by the object-

area data is designated, or an action to be performed when the area specified by the

object-area data is designated;

the method further comprising storing a position-correspondence table in which the

time stamp and the storage position of metadata related to the time stamp are in

correspondence with each other;

wherein upon receiving playback start time for the moving image, the transmitting the

stored metadata sequentially sends the metadata by streaming distribution from the metadata

storage position specified with reference to the position-correspondence table.

Claim 19 (New): A method of transmitting data in a server device capable of accessing a hypermedia-data client device through a network, comprising:

storing metadata having information related to contents of an image corresponding to each of time stamps of a moving image to be played back by the client device;

receiving the time stamp of the image to be played back, the time stamp being transmitted from the client device; and

transmitting the stored metadata to the client device by streaming distribution in synchronization with the playback of the image in accordance with the received time stamp;

the metadata including:

object-area data specifying the area of an object appearing in the image corresponding to the time stamp; and

data specifying contents to be displayed when the area specified by the object-area data is designated, or an action to be performed when the area specified by the object-area data is designated;

the method further comprising:

storing a first table that brings sections of the time stamps related to a plurality of pieces of the metadata into correspondence with information for specifying the metadata; and

storing a second table that brings the time stamps into correspondence with storage positions of metadata related to the time stamps;

wherein upon receiving a playback start time for the moving image, the transmitting the stored metadata sends partial data of the metadata specified with reference to the first table by streaming distribution, and then sequentially sends the metadata from the storage position specified with reference to the second table by streaming distribution.